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Creation II

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Susan Cross

Creation II

An insight into the minds of the Modern Artist-Jeweller

Ref output 3



Very Long necklace (detail) 2009. oxidised silver & 18ct gold
Photo: J.McGregor

Outline description:

In recognition of my contribution to Contemporary Jewellery in the UK, reinforced by awarded joint prize in the Jerwood Applied Arts Award: Jewellery in 2007.

I was invited by the curator Mary La Trobe Bateman OBE to participate in this major exhibition:

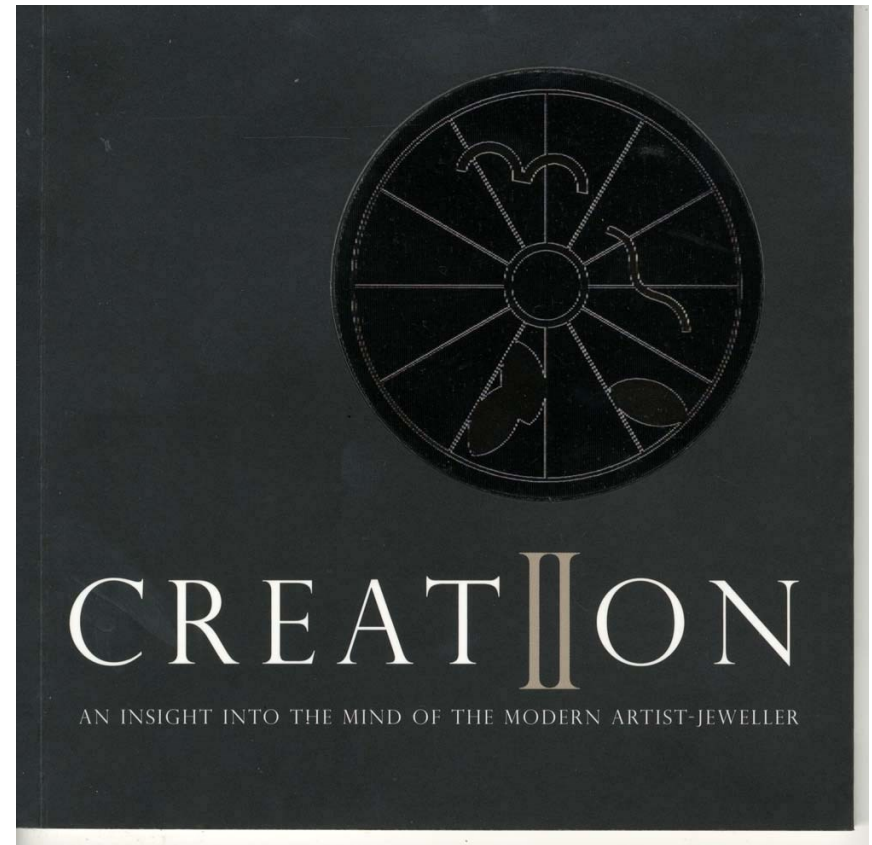
Creation II – an insight into the minds of the modern artist-jeweller. Goldsmiths Hall, Worshipful Company of Goldsmith's, London.

www.thegoldsmiths.co.uk

May29th-11th July 2009

New research for this exhibition fell into two categories and questioned the following:

- How to expand on past experimental drawings/models of woven chain and how might this translate into precious metals?
 - How to design & make new kind of woven chain that offers flexibility for the wearer whilst remaining true to its original source?
 -
 - How to use the dense quality of precious metals drawn to fine wire (0.2mm) to create an illusion of the ephemeral/ a gold haze?
 - How to translate the quality of a graphite drawing through precious metal wires into contemporary jewellery?
- ❖ In addition a 10 minute documentary was commissioned in support the exhibition.



Exhibition catalogue with DVD of film documentaries.

It celebrates the experience and influence of key teachers as well as younger jewellers who have also found individual voices in their work, making one-off pieces that are instantly recognisable through their personal style"

Mary La Trobe Bateman OBE: Curator



Very Long necklace 2009 oxidised silver & 18ct gold
850mm L Photo: J.McGregor

Originality:

This exhibition invitation gave me to the opportunity to develop new jewellery research in the following ways:

- Exploring and applying metal working techniques, for example: the testing out of crocheting 18ct gold wire into a 'ribbon' thus allowing for articulation when applied and woven through repetitive oxidised silver rings.
- Testing out methods of constructing with precious metal wires that attempt to translate drawings evocative of the ephemeral qualities of atmospheric light play
- Translating but still capturing the spontaneity/energy of a drawn graphic line into the more considered act of designing and making with precious metals.

"Susan Cross uses textile techniques with precious metal wire, but in a more spontaneous way"

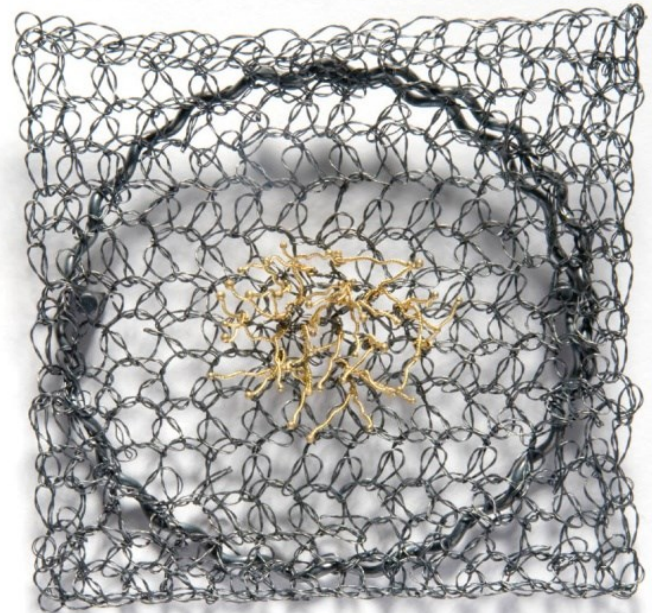
Mary La Trobe Bateman OBE curator

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To give a greater insight into the working methods and creative philosophy of my research practise I was interviewed and filmed at work in my studio by a post-graduate film student from ECA.

'Loop the Loop' Directed by: Amy Rose & Trine Ottosen

The films were overseen for final edit by renowned documentary filmmaker Paul Watson.



Gold Haze 2009 Brooch
oxidised silver & 18ct gold. 75x75mm
Photograph: J. McGregor

“Creation II gives an insight into the world of the artist jeweller. My choice illustrates the diversity of the field- design, technique, and individual creativity

Mary La Trobe Bateman OBE curator



Drawing /models studies of light stencils 2002

Method:

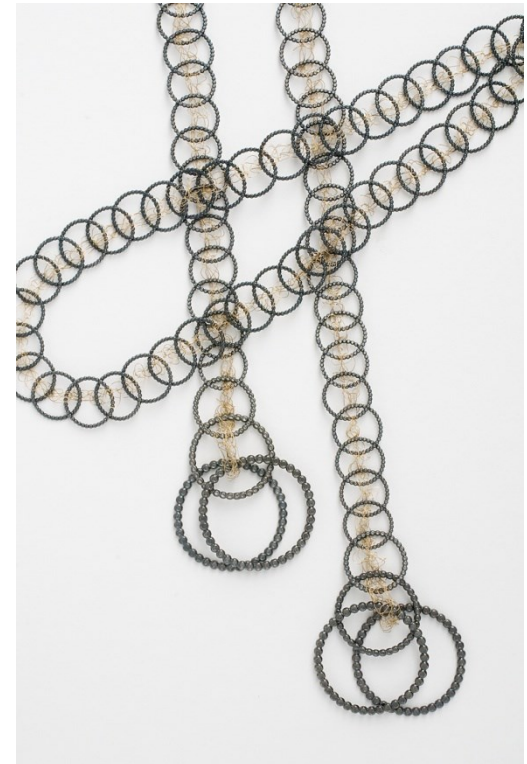
Very Long Necklace woven chain # 2 2009

- designed and made through the translation of drawing, test pieces and model making started in 2002.



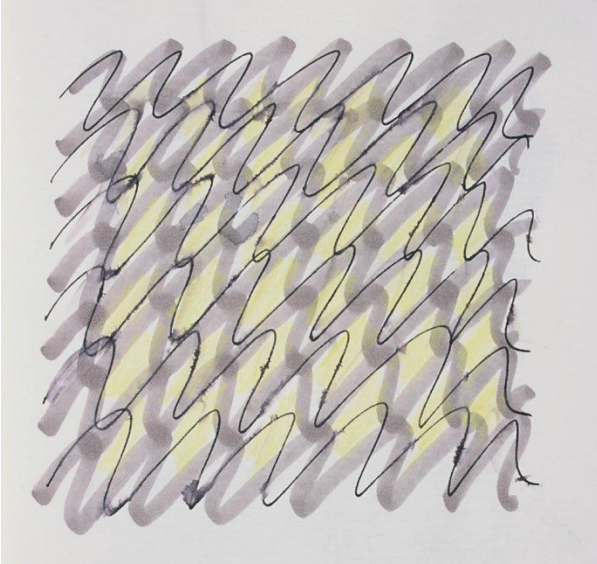
- Experiments were made testing out material suitability in relation to construction, overall shape and form requirements.
- 0.2mm dia. 18ct gold wire was crocheted using a no: 0.75mm steel crochet hook into a narrow 'ribbon'.

Testing out chain construction with precious metals & textile 2009



Very Long necklace 2009 oxidised silver & 18ct gold 850mm L Photo: J.McGregor

Con't



Inspirational source material...attempting to capture ephemeral qualities of light through a line drawing

*Drawings were my source material to make **Haze series #1** 2009.*

- *testing out precious metals to find ways of capturing a 'hazy mist' of gold overlaid onto an oxidised silver wire semi-transparent layer.*

Methods used were:

- *threading, twisting& knotting into a crocheted wire supporting layer that is sewn taught over a crimped silver wire frame.*



....translating drawing into materials and making.

Significance:

The Worshipful Company of Goldsmith's is one of London's twelve guilds. Dating back to 1300 its key role as a guild is to legislate Hallmarking in the UK.

Goldsmith's Hall regularly sponsors and hosts high profile exhibitions; ***Creation II – an insight into the mind of the modern artist jeweller*** is an example of their commitment to promote Jewellery & Silversmithing nationally & internationally.

Invited artists jewellers:

Professor Emeritus Dorothy Hogg MBE
Charlotte de Syllas
Jacqueline Mina
David Watkins
Wendy Ramshaw CBE
Daphne Krinos
Susan May
Vicki Ambery- Smith
Kamilla Ruberg
Catherine Martin
Malcolm Betts



Catalogue: image and artist statement.

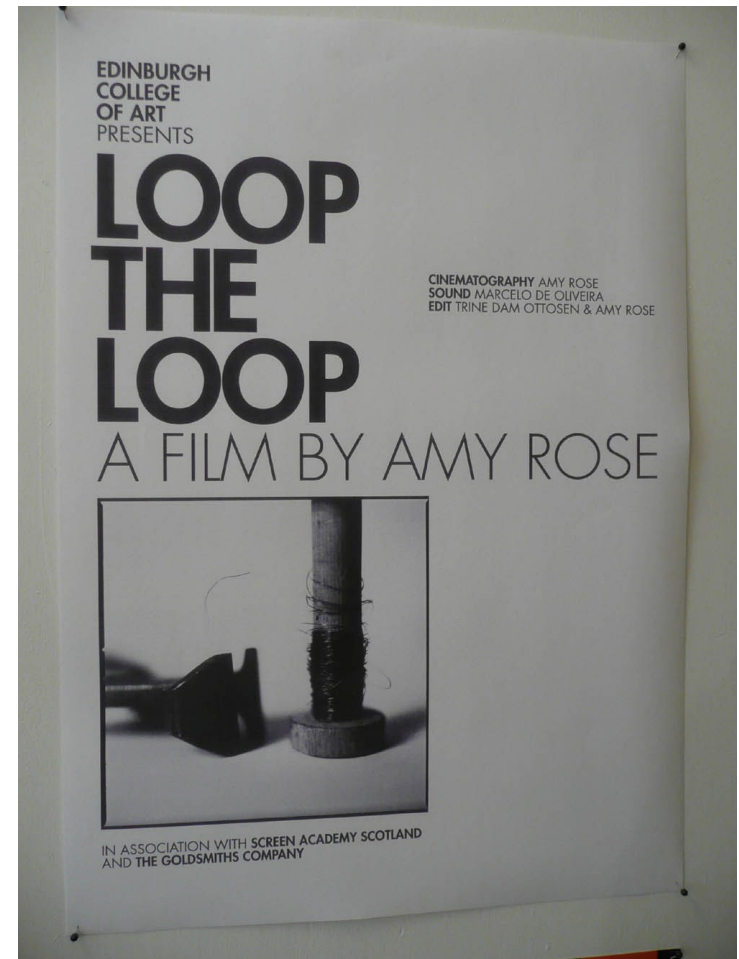


Susan Cross, exhibition of jewellery
Creation II- an insight into the mind of the modern artist jeweller, Goldsmith's Hall, London

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Creation II –an insight into the mind of the modern artist jeweller led to the following outcomes:

- contributor to a major survey on contemporary jewellery in the UK.
- archival documentary film of methodology and philosophy of research practise
- collection of new research concluded for exhibition
- new experimental directions in my practise
- an invitation to give a presentation on my research practise by president; Richard Edgumbe (curator and historian of Jewellery V&A Museum, London) to the Jewellery Historians society, Royal academy, London November 2010



Poster design for documentary film: Loop the Loop

“....an important strand of this exhibition is the group of films which have been commissioned as part of the Goldsmith’s company’s educational remit”

Mary La Trobe Bateman OBE: curator